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COUNTRY <u>East Germany</u>	SECURITY INFORMATION	REPORT NO.
TOPIC <u>Volkspolizei Luft</u>		
EVALUATION <u>see below</u>	PLACE OBTAINED 	25X1
DATE OF CONTENT <u>May to 24 July 1953</u>		
DATE OBTAINED 	25X1	DATE PREPARED <u>31 August 1953</u>
REFERENCES _____		
PAGES <u>2</u>	ENCLOSURES (NO. & TYPE) _____	
REMARKS _____		
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1. In May 1953, the chief of the Berlin Oberpostdirektion, Dr. Geissler, allegedly a former high-ranking Luftwaffe officer, had joined the Volkspolizei.

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Dr. Geissler had become a VPL inspector, and that, he was in charge of the establishment of an air communication net. Geissler's office was allegedly located in Berlin-Johannisthal.

2. During June and July 1953, PK officers were of special importance in the VPL. At an unspecified VPL Agency they were the only officers to be allowed to carry arms during the uprisings in East Germany.
3. A unit, which was directly subordinated to the VPL headquarters continued routine training after 17 June. By 18 July 1953, no vacancies were filled nor was the personnel increased as it had been planned. No personnel was discharged except for a few VPs who would also have been released under normal circumstances.
4. At 7 p.m. on 19 July 1953, Berliner Platz at Cottbus that a drunken man, 20 to 25 years of age, apparently a Russian, wearing the VPL uniform with blue aviation insignia, had a quarrel with a civilian looking like a Russian. Both shouted at each other in Russian. During the fight, the man in uniform drew his pistol. VPL soldiers and an officer with three stars dismounted from a truck and hauled the VPL soldier on the truck after the civilian had been able to snatch the pistol away from him.
5. On 21 July 1953, three new EMW sedans and two new EMW buses were turned in by the VPL at Johannisthal airfield. The cars had to be turned in by order of the Ministry for Trade and Supply, in connection with economy measures.
6. On 24 July, the remaining elements of the dog kennel and the photographic section of the VPL headquarters as well as other equipment were entrained at Berlin-Johannisthal. The personnel department, the classified materials department, elements of the rear services the administrative department and two guard platoons were still at Berlin-Johannisthal. It was said

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that the billets of these units had to be evacuated by 31 July. Drivers stated that an airfield near Cottbus was the new location of the VPL headquarters and that a motor transport section was billeted half-way between the airfield and Cottbus.³

7. A sergeant of the personnel department of the VPL headquarters stated that ten civilian employees would be transferred to the Ministry of the Interior on Schneller Strasse.

25X1A 1. [] Comment. Dr. Geissler is reported for the first time in connection with the VPL. He is probably assigned to the signal unit of the VPL headquarters.

25X1A 2. [] Comment. This is another indication that the Soviets assigned to VPL units wear VPL uniforms.

25X1A 3. [] Comment. The transfer of the VPL headquarters from Berlin-Johannisthal to Cottbus was reported previously. It is believed that units of the headquarters are stationed in the former Funkerkaserne outside of Cottbus airfield. The airfield was evacuated by all aircraft on 21 July 1953. []

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